



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION 10**  
**OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE**  
805 SW Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, Oregon 97205

August 19, 2009

Mr. Robert Wyatt  
Northwest Natural & Chairman, Lower Willamette Group  
220 Northwest Second Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97209

Re: Portland Harbor Superfund Site; Administrative Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study; Docket No. CERCLA-10-2001-0240 – Submittal of Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment

Dear Mr. Wyatt:

As you are aware, EPA has identified discrepancies between EPA's preferred approach to the evaluation of benthic risk and the approach that the LWG is planning to present in the draft baseline ecological risk assessment (BERA). These discrepancies were outlined in an EPA email dated July 31, 2009. Despite this discrepancy, EPA is not requiring that the LWG's approach for evaluating benthic risk be modified for the draft baseline ecological risk assessment and requests that the draft BERA be submitted as soon as practicable. EPA believes that submittal of the BERA within the next two weeks or so, and the baseline human health risk assessment approximately two weeks thereafter, will facilitate the overall project schedule.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Chip Humphrey at (503) 326-2678 or Eric Blischke (503) 326-4006. All legal inquiries should be directed to Lori Cora at (206) 553-1115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chip Humphrey".

Chip Humphrey  
Eric Blischke  
Remedial Project Managers

cc: Greg Ulirsch, ATSDR  
Rob Neely, NOAA  
Ted Buerger, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Preston Sleeper, Department of Interior  
Jim Anderson, DEQ  
Kurt Burkholder, Oregon DOJ  
David Farrer, Oregon Environmental Health Assessment Program  
Rick Keppler, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Michael Karnosh, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Tom Downey, Confederated Tribes of Siletz  
Audie Huber, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla  
Brian Cunningham, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Erin Madden, Nez Perce Tribe  
Rose Longoria, Confederated Tribes of Yakama Nation